UNEP’s Water Footprint and Efficiency Initiatives

Dr. Takehiro Nakamura
Director, International Environmental Technology Centre
United Nations Environment Programme
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics

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WaFNE Project: Overview

Overall Goal:

- To enhance water efficiency and water quality management through the refinement of water accounting/footprint and water neutrality methodologies with support of related management tools, their testing and application in...

- (i) high water impact and water dependent industry sectors, used by their financiers and investors in due diligence and stock picking exercises, as well as

- (ii) water-stressed / scarce regions, used by public authorities in local water service and conservation operations.

Outputs:

- Methodologies, tools / guides, capacity platform, dialogue forums, country pilot tests / demonstrations, awareness raising & communications
Related Initiatives

Improving best practice and technical assistance

- Participation in support of Global Compact in the CEO Water Mandate
- MoU with ISO including water as focus area
- UNEP/SETAC International Life Cycle Initiative: Project Group on water use in LCA
- Membership in Water Footprint Network
- Potential involvement in water stewardship roundtable
- UNEP Finance Initiative Working Group on water
- African Beverage Industries Water Saving Initiative (ABIWSI)
Green Economy Report and Resource Panel

Green Economy Initiative:

- Water Chapter in Green Economy Report “Bluing green economies - Investing in water services, infrastructure, policies and management”

→ Reference to Water Footprint and Virtual Water

International Panel for Sustainable Resource Management:

- 1\textsuperscript{st} report: Water Efficiency and Decoupling

→ Focus on water as limit to growth in a number of countries and opportunities for increasing water productivity

- 2\textsuperscript{nd} report: Water Accounting

→ Focus on accounting the water supply and demand in selected regions and the water footprint of selected products
WAFNE: Time Frame and Partners

**Time frame:** 3 years (2009/10 – 2012/13)

**Partners:**

- UNEP: UNEP SCP Branch (Paris), UNEP Finance Initiative - FI (Geneva), International Environmental Technology Centre - IETC (Osaka)
- UN Global Compact – CEO Water Mandate
- Business & Industry: participant companies, organizations
- Relevant UN institutions, expert institutes & networks incl. UN-Waters, Pacific Institute, Water Footprint Network and UNEP/SETAC International Life Cycle Initiative - ILCI, Global Reporting Initiative - GRI
WAFNE – Proposed activities

**Component 1:** Refinement, promotion of methodologies and tools for application of water accounting/footprinting related concepts/tools

**Component 2:** Applying water accounting/footprinting related concepts & management tools in selected industry sectors

**Component 3:** Using water accounting/footprint and related concepts in financial sector

**Component 4:** Applying water accounting/footprinting and related concepts in selected geographical locations
WAFNE project: Funding

> US$ 3 million over 3 yrs

- UNEP 500 $
- GEF 1 mill $
- GTZ 500 $
- PS 500 $
- Korea 500 $
Target geographical areas and industrial sectors to be selected on the basis of:

- level of water stress and scarcity, current and projected;
- level of national industrial output, water use and environmental inefficiencies;
- economic and environmental importance of targeted industries, considering major agricultural exporters and industrial suppliers of global supply chains;
- willingness of decision-makers and organisations in targeted areas / sectors to participate;
- assessment of potential for replication and wider adaptation in country, region.
Target countries

Pilot testing & demonstrations foreseen in various countries. Considering project criteria, to be selected from…

(i) Asia: **China, India**, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia, **Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Vietnam**

(ii) Africa: Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco, **South Africa**, Tunisia

(iii) (resources depending), also Latin America, where countries face variation internally (scarcity in some areas, abundance in others) and have internal distributional challenges: Argentina, Chile, **Mexico**, Peru

(iv) (resources depending), also Eastern Europe, where countries face water challenges: **Ukraine**, …
1st report funded by WAFNE project launched: Corporate Water Accounting - Stocktaking Analysis

- Report prepared by the Pacific Institute and the Institute for Environmental Research and Education and launched at CEO Mandate meeting in New York at 14 April 2010
- Tools serve to assess operational efficiency and product eco-design; water risk assessment; managing water-related social and environmental impacts and stewardship response; and communicating water risk and performance with stakeholder.
- A shared understanding needed due to different claims about ‘water footprinting’
Other WAFNE reports

- **Mapping Initiatives on Corporate Water Disclosure** (prepared by GRI)
  - Mapping of relevant initiatives, concepts, approaches, protocols and guidelines on the corporate disclosure and external communication of water-related issues
  - Identification of commonalities and key variations between the different approaches with a view to agreeing on harmonization and consolidation

- **Water footprint assessment, policy and practical measures in a specific geographical setting** (prepared by WFN)
  - Analysis of applications of the water footprint assessment in different geographical areas
  - Overview of different measures to improve water footprints at different geographical scales
  - Guideline for water footprint assessment of a specific geographical area
Related activities carried out so far

- Coordination meeting on Corporate Water Disclosure, London, 9 July 2009
  - Led by GRI, CEO WM and Carbon Disclosure Project
- Water Accounting and Efficiency Stocktaking Workshop, Paris, 23/24 Nov 2009
  - Jointly by UNEP SCP Branch, IETC and UNEP FI
- Workshop on African Beverage Industries Water Saving Initiative (ABIWSI), Nairobi, 23/24 Mar 2010
  - Coordinated by UNEP Regional Office for Africa
- Involvement in initiatives around emerging trends & practice in water accounting & disclosure
  - Active role in CEO Water Mandate, ILCI, WFN and FI
- Solicitation and Coordination of Pilot Testers
  - Invitation letter soliciting CEO Mandate endorser participation in joint pilot testing projects with UNEP
- GTZ/ SABMiller Partnership on Water Footprinting
  - UNEP in Observer role
- Finalization of GER chapter on water
  - Chapter review
- Resource Panel water efficiency group
  - Group meetings 28/29 March 2010 and 28/29 May 2010
Focus of next activities

• Knowledge water management and capacity building platform for Water Accounting and Management in water stressed regions and water-intensive industries

2010

1. Further Scientific research and consultation with stakeholders for the development of the platform.

2. Establishment of the capacity platform

2011

1. Organisation of regional capacity building and training of trainers on the use of the water footprint management tools.

2. Applying water footprinting, related concepts and management tools in selected industry sectors.
Related upcoming events and other activities

- Consultation meeting for capacity platform on 17 June 2010 in Brussels, back to back with Water Stewardship Roundtable
- Meeting on water management on 1-2 July in Korea
- Organization of capacity building and training of trainers on the use of the water footprint management tools in the beverage sector in Africa (ABIWSI)
- Refinement of GEF proposal based on GEFSEC comments
- Consultation with GTZ on joint support for Public Private Partnerships
- Joint session with WFN at Stockholm World Water Week, 7 September 2010: Water Footprint and Public Policy: What Can Governments do to Reduce Humanity’s Water Footprint?
- Resource Panel group meeting during World Water Week 2010 to engage experts for an Assessment Report on the “Global situation of water use – The current knowledge provided by water accounting”
For more information:

• Ryuichi FUKUHARA
  Project Officer, IETC, Shiga
  Email: ryuichi.fukuhara@unep.org

• Guido Sonnemann
  Programme Officer, SCP Branch, Paris
  Email: guido.sonnemann@unep.org

• Ivo Mulder
  Programme Officer, UNEP FI, Geneva
  Email: lvo.mulder@unep.org